

# State Approves \$3 Million Hospital Grant

Torrance

## Press-Herald

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14 PAGES



WE GOT IT... Leonard Ensminger, administrator at Torrance Memorial Hospital, tells Viola Anderson, R.N., director of nursing, that a federal-state grant of \$3.2 million has been approved. The grant will help to finance a new 250-bed hospital to be built on a 10-acre site near Hawthorne and Lomita Boulevards. (Press-Herald Photo)

# City Employees Win Court Order Releasing Back Pay

## Federal Health Service Action Expected Soon

Torrance Memorial Hospital has satisfied the financial requirements necessary to retain a \$3.2 million federal-state grant for a new 250-bed hospital.

The announcement was made Friday by the State Department of Public Health, which administers the funds in California. Only approval from the U. S. Public Health Service is needed. That is expected to take about three weeks.

Local financial commitments were met when the hospital received a letter of credit for a \$4.2 million loan from United California Bank. The transaction was arranged by George Post, vice president and manager of the bank's Del Amo branch and a member of the hospital board.

ADMINISTRATOR Leonard Ensminger praised the bank for its action, but warned that the community must now make a strong effort to reduce the extensive borrowing of money.

Total cost of constructing, equipping, and furnishing the new hospital facilities is estimated at \$7.6 million.

The balance of funds needed after the \$3.2 million grant and \$4.2 million loan is approximately \$300,000 and will be made up in cash by the hospital.

ENSMINGER said that the loan will be reduced at the time papers are signed from \$4.2 million to the amount which actually is needed to bridge the gap between construction costs and cash resources available.

"We are turning to the community for help," he said. "Hospitals should not impose the added burden for capital expenditures on patients. All income should be expended for patient care."

The first phase of the hospital's fund drive is centered

around the hospital family, including the medical staff, employees, and women's auxiliary. Ensminger explained. Pledges and contributions have reached \$500,000, it was noted.

THE SECOND phase, due to begin soon, will involve the community's industrial concerns, Ensminger said. Industry is expected to produce the largest source of funds, he added.

"Industry makes high insurance payments to give its employees medical care," Ensminger said. "Without adequate hospital beds, they are paying for nothing. We hope they see this need and support us with contributions."

The new hospital is the result of a merger between Torrance Memorial and Riviera Community hospitals. The hospitals signed the merger agreement last July.

LAND FOR the new 250-bed facility has been acquired—a 10-acre site near Hawthorne and Lomita boulevards. The hospital reportedly paid \$350,000 for the site, which is adjacent to a 25-acre medical complex being planned by Torrance, a group of South Bay doctors and professional men.

Groundbreaking for the new hospital is scheduled in April, 1968, and construction is estimated to take about two years.

## Bus Trip To Musical Scheduled

A theater bus trip for adults to the Carousel Theater in West Covina to the musical "South Pacific" has been planned by the Torrance Recreation Department for Thursday.

The bus is scheduled to leave from the Torrance City Hall, 3031 Torrance Blvd., at 7 p.m. and return at approximately 11:30 p.m.

Tickets for the theater trip are \$4.25 and \$5.25. Price covers admission, transportation, and trip insurance. Deadline for payment of tickets is Tuesday.

## Earns Degree

Donald Lee Poush, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester J. Poush of 4543 Narrot St., received an Associate in Arts degree from Northwestern Junior College in Sterling, Colo., at commencement exercises held there Friday.

## City Sign Laws Get Second Look

First meeting of a newly formed Torrance Merchant's Sign Committee will be held Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the employees lounge at the Torrance City Hall.

All businessmen in the city have been invited to attend and participate in the committee's work, Leo Salisbury, chairman, said. The topic for Tuesday will be "Pole Signs."

The committee was organized to draft a new sign ordinance after a proposed ordinance was rejected by the city's businessmen and the Planning Commission.

Attention was first called to the proposed ordinance, which would have required removal of virtually all existing signs in the city within three years, in an exclusive article in the Press-Herald.

Topics for future meetings of the committee will be "Wall Signs," June 13; "Moving Signs," June 20; and "Billboards," June 27.

## Burglars Open Safe In Church

Some \$315 in cash was taken from a church safe by burglars who may have broken into another Torrance church the same morning.

Torrance police said the theft occurred at the South Bay Church of God, 17661 Yukon Ave., sometime early Thursday or late Wednesday.

In addition to the \$315, taken from a safe, \$18 was taken from the desk of pastor Clarence Peterson.

Police investigating the burglary said the suspects apparently used paper matches for light.

Burglars also entered the Hope Evangelical United Church at 3347 W. Artesia Blvd. about the same time, police said. Several burned paper matches were found on the floor.

Nothing was taken from the second church, it was reported.

## Bike Hits Curb, Boy Breaks Leg

Douglas Watson, of 21229 Ocean St. was attempting a left hand turn at the corner of Marjorie and Scott streets when his motor scooter careened into a curb at about 7:55 a.m. Friday.

According to Torrance police, Watson, 16, was taken to Riviera Community Hospital where he was treated for a fractured right leg.

## Library Friends To Meet

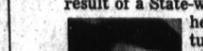
"Creativity and Publication" will be discussed by Mrs. Doris Agyagos when she speaks to the Friends of the Torrance Library tomorrow at their regular meeting at the Torrance Recreation Center.

The program, beginning at 8 p.m., will also include a musical review to be presented by the Torrance High School Troubadors.

Election of officers for the coming year, presentation of awards, and a vote on revision of the Friends' By-Laws are on the agenda for the business meeting.

## Local Postman Heads State Union

D. John Barry, 22821 Kathryn Ave., became state president of the 4,500 member California Postal Union as a result of a State-wide election held last Saturday, May 27. The Postal Union, State affiliate of the 75,000 member National Postal Union, has 59 affiliated locals in the larger postal facilities throughout the State.



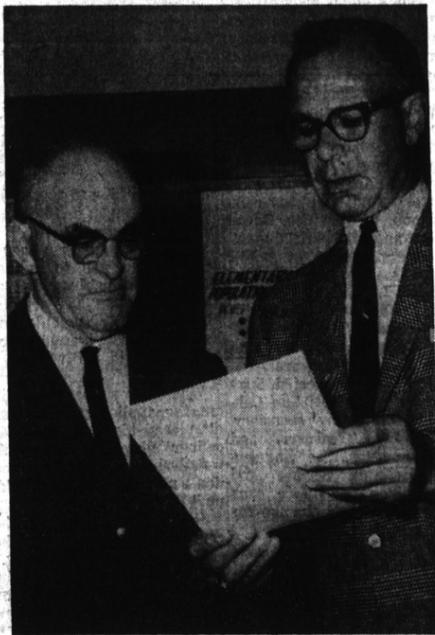
The National Postal Union is the third largest among a dozen labor unions functioning in the Post Office Department. Although these organizations operate under an open-shop policy and the members have no right to strike, most are affiliated with the AFL-CIO and function like other labor unions in organized industry.

Barry recently returned from Washington D.C. where he led the California delegation in a "trip to the White House"—a demonstration involving 1,400 Postal workers in the union from various

## Local Postman Heads State Union

parts of the country—protesting President Johnson's proposals for what the union termed a "penny-ante peanuts raise."

Barry began his career in the union seven years ago as secretary of the Torrance Local of the N.P.U. He won the office of state secretary-treasurer in 1964, and after serving a short while as executive vice president in 1966, succeeded former State President Lyle F. Kuck of Visalia upon the latter's resignation last August. Barry will serve for a two-year term.



RETIRING... Dale L. Hobbs (left), a utility groundsman for the Torrance Unified School District for the past 10 years, receives a certificate from Bert M. Lynn, president of the Board of Education. The service award was presented at a meeting of the board.

## AT MONTGOMERY

## 282 Grads Get Diplomas Today

Diplomas will be conferred on 282 graduates this afternoon at Bishop Montgomery High School as the school marks its seventh annual commencement exercises.

Brother Eugene Ward, FSC, curriculum coordinator for the Catholic Archdiocese of

Los Angeles, will be the principal speaker.

Diplomas will be presented by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick Dignan, pastor of American Martyr Church in Manhattan Beach.

Miss Catherine Price will deliver the valedictory address. Her general theme will be "Developing a Sense of Values." Richard Romero will deliver the salutatory address.

Graduates will be presented by the Rev. Aloysius Romanowski, OFM Conv., boys' vice principal at Bishop Montgomery.

Commencement exercises will get under way at 2:30 p.m. in the high school stadium.

## City Nixes Policemen's Annual Show

Torrance city officials have refused to endorse the Torrance Police Officers' Association Show to be held this fall in the Long Beach Arena.

City Manager Edward J. Ferraro and Chief of Police Walter R. Koenig set forth the policy in a letter to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

"The official position of the Police Department would be non-endorsement of the police show by the office of Chief of Police," the letter said. "The City Manager is in agreement with this policy and will indicate that no approval for this event has been extended by the administrative structure of the city government."

## Salary Hikes Legal, Judge Tells Council

A Superior Court Judge Thursday ordered Torrance to release back pay being held in trust for some 100 city employees.

The order, a writ of mandate was issued by Judge John A. Shidler. It had been sought by Ray V. Saukkola, president of the Torrance City Employees Association.

Judge Shidler's ruling means a pay increase granted to city employees in early 1966 is legal.

The salaries were impounded by the City Council in May after the Torrance Police Association Officer's Association, in a joint suit with the wife of a retired police officer, challenged the promotion of a police officer.

THE OFFICER, Thomas H. Woodridge, had been blanketed into the rank of sergeant following a wage and salary survey which was conducted for the city by a Chicago-based consultant. He was one of 106 employees who received promotions and salary increases as a result of the survey.

The lawsuit challenges Woodridge's promotion on grounds that he did not take the required civil service examination and asks that each member of the City Council—as well as certain other city officials—be required to repay the city \$1,500.

That is the amount which it is estimated Woodridge has received since he was promoted.

CITY COUNCILMEN impounded the pay of the 100 other employees because they feared a favorable decision for the Police Officer's Association might result in additional law suits. The amounts

range from \$50 to \$211 per month, it was reported. The funds had been placed in trust accounts, City Treasurer Thomas Rupert said. He estimated the funds would accrue in the trust accounts at the rate of \$10,000 to \$15,000 per month.

Judge Shidler noted the city first approved the pay increases by resolution and then—last April 18—affirmed that action by adopting an ordinance.

"I held that the ordinance (See CITY PAY, Page A-2)

## Trustees May Fill Vacancy

Torrance school board members are expected to name a successor to Dr. T. Shery tomorrow evening when they convene for a regular meeting.

The list of persons who were interviewed for the position narrowed to "about 10" last week following a special meeting of the board. Trustees reportedly have been interviewing the remaining candidates.

Bert M. Lynn, president of the board, has declined, however, to reveal the names of any person being considered for the seat.

Trustees have until Thursday to fill the vacancy which was created by Dr. Shery's death last May 9. If the board fails to agree on a successor, the County Superintendent of Schools may appoint a member under state law.

The board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the school district administrative offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo.

## Safety Awards Scheduled

The second annual "Community Safety Recognition Luncheon" will be held Monday noon at 2900 Pacific Coast Hwy. Chairman Eva Bisou of the sponsoring Torrance Safety Council announced that awards will be presented in recognition of service to the city of Torrance in the interest of public safety. Municipal Court Judge Raymond Choate will be guest speaker at the awards luncheon.

## Highway Group to Install

Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh will be guest speaker when the Inter-City Highway Committee installs new officers at the Los Verdes Country Club Thursday evening. Installing new officers will be Walter Lynch, charter president of the group. New officers will include Murray O. Nixon, Inglewood, president; Seymour J. Siegel, Culver City, vice president; and Marvin J. Schwarzwalter, Lawndale, secretary-treasurer. Outgoing president is David K. Hayward of Redondo Beach.

## Area Construction Booms

A total of 379 construction permits with a valuation of \$6,363,726 were issued by the Lomita office of the County during May to lead Los Angeles County construction figures for the fifth consecutive month, Supervisor Burton W. Chace reported Saturday. The office serves the cities of Lomita, Rolling Hills, and Rolling Hills Estates as well as unincorporated areas nearby. A total of \$31.8 million in new construction permits was issued by the County during May, Chace said.